

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for normalizing data in a supply chain management framework,  
2 comprising:  
3 a) defining a plurality of data types each including parameters;  
4 b) receiving data from a plurality of point of sale outlets of a supply chain utilizing a  
5 network, the data relating to an amount of goods sold by the point of sale outlets;  
6 c) verifying a format of the data against the parameters of the defined data types; and  
7 d) correcting any discrepancies between the format of the data and the parameters of  
8 the defined data types for facilitating an analysis of the data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the corrections are logged.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the discrepancies are displayed utilizing a  
2 network-based interface.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein discrepancies are corrected by translating the  
2 format of the data in accordance with the parameters of the defined data types.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the corrected data is displayed utilizing a  
2 network-based interface.
- 1 7. A system for normalizing data in a supply chain management framework,  
2 comprising:  
3 a) logic for defining a plurality of data types each including parameters;

- 4 b) logic for receiving data from a plurality of point of sale outlets of a supply chain  
5 utilizing a network, the data relating to an amount of goods sold by the point of  
6 sale outlets;
- 7 c) logic for verifying a format of the data against the parameters of the defined data  
8 types; and
- 9 d) logic for correcting any discrepancies between the format of the data and the  
10 parameters of the defined data types for facilitating an analysis of the data.

1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the corrections are logged.

1 9. The system of claim 7, wherein the discrepancies are displayed utilizing a  
2 network-based interface.

1 10. The system of claim 7, wherein discrepancies are corrected by translating the  
2 format of the data in accordance with the parameters of the defined data types.

1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the corrected data is displayed utilizing a  
2 network-based interface.

1 13. A computer program product for normalizing data in a supply chain management  
2 framework, comprising:

- 3 a) computer code for defining a plurality of data types each including parameters;
- 4 b) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of point of sale outlets of a  
5 supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to an amount of goods sold by  
6 the point of sale outlets;
- 7 c) computer code for verifying a format of the data against the parameters of the  
8 defined data types; and

9 d) computer code for correcting any discrepancies between the format of the data  
10 and the parameters of the defined data types for facilitating an analysis of the  
11 data.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the corrections are logged.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the discrepancies are  
2 displayed utilizing a network-based interface.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein discrepancies are corrected  
2 by translating the format of the data in accordance with the parameters of the  
3 defined data types.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the  
2 Internet.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the corrected data is  
2 displayed utilizing a network-based interface.